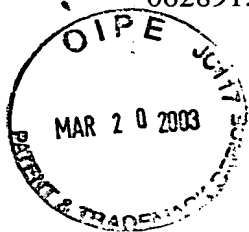


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Technology Center 2600

In re Application of: Field, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/452,751  
Filing Date: December 1, 1999  
Group Art Unit: 2697  
Examiner: Swickhamer, Christopher M.  
Title: *SYNCHRONOUS SWITCH AND METHOD FOR A  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS NODE*

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231-9999

Dear Sir:

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*Willie Jiles*

Willie Jiles

**RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

In response to the Office Action mailed January 31, 2003, Applicants respectfully  
request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following  
comments as set forth below. No amendments have been made.

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03/27/2003 84.00 OP

03/27/2003 WABDELRI 0008481100  
03/27/2003 19.00 CR  
03/27/2003